

Crime Witness 17

Security Services – CT P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Oregon 97208

PR 63 04

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: THURSDAY, July 22, 2004

CONTACT: Ed Mosey, BPA (503) 230-5131

BPA offers \$25,000 for identity of power line vandals Shooters bring down line near Sweet Home

PORTLAND, Ore. – The Bonneville Power Administration is offering \$25,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of vandals who shot out insulators on a power line near Sweet Home, Ore. on Sunday, July 18, at about 3 p.m.

The downed line halted service for nearly five hours in the area and started a brush fire near McDowel Creek Road, said Kirsten Kler, BPA security specialist.

"Whoever did the shooting endangered their own lives, disrupted the lives of hundreds of others, started a fire that could have spread in nearby forest, and cost ratepayers many thousands of dollars for repairs," Kler said.

She said BPA is offering up to \$25,000 in rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the shooters. BPA and local law enforcement agencies are investigating. The reward is part of BPA's Crime Witness Program, which generates hundreds of tips and saves thousands of ratepayer dollars every year. Anyone who observed the incident or has other relevant information is urged to call (800) 437-2744.